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collection, bears a decorative design representing King William III. mounted on a horse. The colors are grayish blue, yellow and green, with dabs of blue around the edge. The plaque measures twelve inches in diameter. Some authorities attribute these objects to Staffordshire, but we are inclined to ascribe them to Lambeth, the earliest seat of Delft manufacture in England.

The thin white pottery of Persia, with pierced decoration filled in with transparent glaze, is believed by some authors to be the "Gombroon" ware mentioned by Horace Walpole, which derived its name from the seaport of Gombroon (Bander-Abbas), in the province of Kirman, opposite Ormuz, in the Persian Gulf, from which place came the Oriental wares which were first introduced into England in the seventeenth century. A small bowl, or saucer, recently acquired by this Museum, is composed of thin, creamy white paste, very light in weight, with delicate piercing around the sides. In the bottom are ornaments painted in black.

At Rakka, on the banks of the Euphrates, not far from Aleppo, glass glazed pottery, of coarse, granular body, has been brought to light through recent excavations. The striking peculiarities of Rakka ware are a black, or brown, ornamentation on a blue, or greenish, or brown ground, over which a heavy glass glaze has been applied, which is frequently covered with a silvery sheen, closely resembling the iridescent patina of Phœnician glass, produced by long burial in the earth. This ware is supposed to date from the ninth to the thirteenth century of our era. A similar ware has been found at Sultanabad, Persia. A characteristic bowl of Rakka ware, purchased for the Museum collection, is shown in the accompanying illustration. E. A. B.



NOTES

NEW ART HANDBOOK—The Art Handbook on THE MAIOLICA OF MEXICO is now ready for distribution. It is profusely illustrated with half-tone text cuts and several excellent full-page color plates, some of which have been reproduced from colored drawings made by pupils of the School connected with the Museum. Copies will be sent to members of the Corporation, on application, free of cost, while to others the charge will be \$2.10, delivered.

BASEMENT IMPROVEMENTS—Rapid progress is being made in fitting up the large apartment beneath the south entrance. The plastering of the walls has been completed and after the floor has been laid the Pompeian Views and large Centennial Model will be installed there.

FOUNDERS' WEEK EXHIBITS—Numerous important objects from the Founders' Week Loan Exhibition have been procured for the Museum, among which may be mentioned some decorative iron stove plates, made in Eastern Pennsylvania in the eighteenth century; an enormous calash, formerly worn by Mrs. Robert Morris; examples of Tucker and Hemphill porcelain made in Philadelphia between 1825 and 1838; pieces of old American stoneware, etc.

NEW CASES—Twenty new cases have been installed since the October number of the BULLETIN appeared. These have been placed in different parts of the building where they were most needed. In the East Gallery twelve of the large and clumsy Centennial cases have been retired and the western half of the room is now fitted up with cases of the most approved pattern. The collections of ceramics and glass are now thoroughly classified and scientifically arranged. The new cases, which are made of ebonized cherry wood, fitted with plate glass, have been so arranged as to permit free circulation in every direction, whereby the lighting has been greatly improved. Seven of the new cases have been placed in the Textile Room, and six in the Southeast Pavilion. To complete the proper arrangement of the eastern end of the East Gallery, twenty-four additional cases are still needed.



SCHOOL NOTES

The Institution was represented by Principal Miller at the hearing of the Ways and Means Committee on Tariff Revision, which was held in Washington on November 28th. Mr. Miller appeared as a member of a very strong committee of the American Free Art League, which included as well delegates from Boston, New York and Chicago and presented a plea for the abolition of the present duty on works of art.

The exhibition of School work that was made at Atlanta on the occasion of the Annual Convention of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education, November 19th, 20th and 21st, attracted very favorable notice, and at the request of the Georgia State Normal School a representative selection of the work shown was presented to that institution for permanent exhibition there.

President Search was one of the principal speakers at the above convention, which Principal Miller also attended. The sessions of the convention and the exhibition of school work were both held in the State Capitol. They were well attended and were successful in every way. The occasion certainly furnished most gratifying evidence of the vigorous growth of an educational movement in which the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art was almost alone a few years ago.

The Course for Curators conducted by Mrs. Stevenson is meeting with most encouraging success. It is attended by most of those enrolled in Regular Normal Department and by a fairly good number of special students who have been attracted by the announcement of a course so much in line with present day needs, and by the well deserved reputation of Mrs. Stevenson.

The Alumni Association held the annual meeting on December 10th, the thirty-first anniversary of the founding of the Institution. Officers were elected for the ensuing year, and general business transacted. An address was delivered by Mr. Edgar V. Seeler, an alumnus, and Trustee of the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art, followed by a musical programme, and a reception to all the new students of this year's classes.

The prizes offered by the Alumni Association for summer work were awarded as follows:

To Miss Harriet Burt, for the best studies of hand.

To Miss Alice Donaldson, for the best decorative studies of flowers.

Miss Burt also received the prize for the best studies of the costumed figure.

A new series of prizes will be offered by the Alumni Board from an additional fund of one hundred dollars presented again this season by Miss Selina B. McIlhenny. This will include one for a design for a seal for the Association; for the best sketches from the figure, and the best decorative applications of the model.

The Girls' Industrial Art League has offered a prize for the best design for a stencil pattern, done by a pupil, for the decoration of the new lunch room.

The Association will make an exhibit of artistic products in cement, in connection with the display of the Giant Portland Cement Company, at the convention of the National Association, to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, January 11-16, 1909. This is a recognition of the value of design as an element in the use of this material, hitherto employed chiefly for support and building purposes. The collection sent from here will include two fountains; a garden bench; large pots for terraces and conservatories, and smaller window boxes, some of which are made of colored sand and with mosaic inlays.

The class in book-binding is filled to its capacity; also the metal classes on Friday afternoon and evening, and on Tuesday all day.

Two scholarships in the Art Department have been offered to pupils of the Indian School at Carlisle, Pa., from the Gillespie fund, by the Committee of Women Scholarship Committee, of which Mrs. Thomas Roberts is Chairman. Mr. Francis E. Leupp, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, has accepted the scholarships in the name of the United States Government, and they are to be awarded to honor students at the Institution very soon.

The Course for Curators, begun on October 15, 1908, has continued uninterruptedly with ten registered scholars, some of whom have been in regular attendance and have shown a promising interest in the work. On December 10th, the lecturer was assisted in the lecture on "The Diseases of Objects" by Mr. George Brinton Phillips, who very kindly gave a practical demonstration of the action and reaction of certain chemicals upon alkalis, such as might be present in objects which long burial in the ground had made liable to deterioration by decomposition. The demonstration was arranged for by the lecturer for the purpose of giving to the students an accurate and technical idea of the various operations by which objects subjected to long burial may be treated when necessary, and of the care necessary to be observed in the treatment. Tests showing the presence of deleterious substances were applied to pottery and bronze objects, and the method of treatment for their safe removal was indicated, tests to prove their ultimate freedom from dangerous substances being made.

The lecturer wishes here to express her thanks to Mr. Phillips for his assistance and for his clear demonstration of the scientific chemistry of the subject.

On December 17th, the class met at Memorial Hall, where the Lecturer continued the demonstration by showing bronze objects in various stages of decomposition, and pottery, and even stone objects on which the action of soil-alkalis was clearly visible. Certain practical processes of cataloguing and label making were also gone through.

It is the purpose of the Lecturer to take the class to other museums where certain aspects of care-taking and installation may be studied to best advantage.

HOSIERY KNITTING—To those skilled in the art of cotton spinning it is needless to say that each class of textile fabric requires a modification in the manufacture of the yarn to best suit the particular demands, consequently it was long ago deemed advisable to add the branch of knitting to the curriculum of the School, and from time to time new knitting machines have been added to the department of cotton spinning. Several firms have recently placed with the School, under permanent loan, examples of their latest improved knitting machines. By the addition of these it is now possible to teach, through practical demonstration, the peculiar requirements necessary in the manufacture of a suitable yarn for hosiery purposes, as well as the actual production of the hosiery itself.

MACHINE LACE—It may not be generally known, but it is nevertheless a fact, that the State of Pennsylvania is the foremost State in the Union in the manufacture of machine lace, and right here in our city is to be found the largest factory in the world for the production of machine lace. Recently the Textile Department has been proffered a one width sample lace loom, valued at \$5000, with the object of stimulating and possibly improving the character of the design to be found in this class of goods. Unfortunately no available room exists in our School for such an installation, and it will not be possible to accept the generous offer, until the new building at Broad Street and Allegheny Avenue is erected.

SPINNING AND TWISTING—It has always been the aim, both of the School authorities and the many friends among the textile machine makers, to endeavor to keep the equipment for instruction purposes as well up to the times as it is possible to do, and it gives the management of the School much pleasure to announce that through the generosity of the old established and well known firm of machine makers, Messrs. Fales and Jenks, of Pawtucket, R. I., the spinning and twisting frames installed by this firm some ten years ago have been withdrawn, and new ones possessing all the latest improvements installed in their place, thereby placing the Department up to date in this respect.

EMPLOYMENT OF GRADUATES—It is very gratifying to be able to announce that all members of last year's regular textile graduation class have secured promising positions in textile work.

